

REMARKS

Rejection of claims 12, 14-16 and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 12

In response to the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have amended claim 12 to include limitations in former claim 13. The Examiner objected to claims 13 and 17 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but stated these claims would be allowable if properly rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants believe claim 12 is now allowable over the combination of Maimone and Chadhuri, and applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Claims 14-16 and 18-19

Each of claims 14-16 and 18-19 depend on claim 12, which is allowable for the reasons given above. As a result, claims 14-16 and 18-19 are also allowable as depending on an allowable independent claim. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's rejection of claims 14-16 and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Allowance of claims 1-11 and 20-45

The Examiner allowed claims 1-11 and 20-45. Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of these claims.

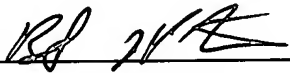
Objection to claims 13 and 17

The Examiner objected to claims 13-17 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but stated these claims would be allowable if properly rewritten in independent form. Claim 13 has been cancelled. Claim 17 depends on claim 16, which depends on claim 12, which is allowable for the reasons given above. As a result, claim 17 is allowable as depending on an allowable independent claim.

Conclusion

In summary, none of the cited prior art, either alone or in combination, teach, support, or suggest the unique combination of features in applicants' claims presently on file. Therefore, applicants respectfully assert that all of applicants' claims are allowable. Such allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if this would in any way advance the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Bret J. Petersen
Reg. No. 37,417

MARTIN & ASSOCIATES, L.L.C.
P.O. Box 548
Carthage, MO 64836-0548
(417) 358-4700